



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
INDIAN HEAD DIVISION
NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER
101 STRAUSS AVE
INDIAN HEAD, MD 20640



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

11 March 2002

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Christina S. Adams
(301) 744 - 6505

IHDIV HOSTS RADM E.B. STRAUSS 99TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Guests have been invited to a 99th Birthday celebration for RADM Elliot B. Strauss USN (Ret). RADM Strauss is the son of the late Admiral Joseph Strauss who served two tours as the Commanding Officer at Indian Head; first from 1900 - 02 and then again from 1906 - 08. The event will take place on 15 March starting at 1030 at the IHDIV Mix House.

Making remarks and presentations are CAPT Marc Siedband, USN IHDIV Commander, Col John Allen, USMC Commandant, United States Naval Academy (USNA) and MajGen Terry Murray, USMC (Ret.) Executive Vice President for Operations, USNA Alumni Association and CAPT Todd Creekman, USN (Ret.) Executive Director Naval Historical Foundation. RADM Elliot Strauss will receive special recognition from the U.S. Congress. CAPT Steve Epperson, NAVSEA Chaplain will offer an invocation and benediction.

Joseph Strauss, the father of the guest of honor - RADM Elliot Strauss, was promoted to Admiral, the highest rank held in active duty in 1930. Admiral Strauss was known in both military and industrial circles for many contributions in the field of ordnance and gunnery. His achievements in this field included: designing the first spring recoil gun mount used in the Navy and the first disappearing mount for deck guns of submarines; developing the 12 inch gun which became the forerunner of the Navy's big gun batteries; and development of the first heavy gun mount to be operated by electricity. Admiral Strauss was also a pioneer in the development of smokeless powder. He is considered "an inventive genius". Strauss started his Naval career at the U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis Maryland in June 1881 and retired with more than forty years of distinguished service.

The guest of honor, Elliot Bowman Strauss, was born in Washington DC on 15 March 1903. Strauss graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in June 1923. RADM Strauss was awarded the Bronze Star Medal, with Combat "V", the citation read: "For meritorious achievement as the United States Naval Representative on the Staff of the Chief of Combined Operations in the Dieppe Raid, and while serving on the Staff of the Allied Naval Commander in Chief during the Invasion of Normandy. Embarked as an observer in a British destroyer which rendered close fire support during the Allied raid on Dieppe on August 19, 1942, Captain (then Commander) Strauss obtained information of great value to the United States and Great Britain in the planning and execution of subsequent operations. Ordered to the Normandy beaches on D plus 2-Day, he applied his comprehensive knowledge of the build-up procedure in solving far

shore shipping problems which threatened to delay the operation. Serving with distinction, skill and courage despite enemy air and ground attack throughout these missions to halt German aggression, Captain Strauss upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.”

RADM Elliot Strauss (Ret.) lived on the Indian Head Base as a boy. The main road as you enter the front gate of what is today the Indian Head Division, Naval Surface Warfare Center is named Strauss Avenue, after his father. RADM Elliot Strauss and his father both attended the United States Naval Academy and retired with distinguished Naval careers.

The IHDIV is a National Center for Energetics. Energetics are explosives, propellants and pyrotechnics. Energetics are what gets the ordnance to the target and/or what provides the lethality once it arrives. The IHDIV was established in 1890 and has been relied on to support the warfighter in every major conflict the U.S. has been involved since that time

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